AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

USSN: 09/887,168

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-12 (canceled).

13. (currently amended): An image processing device comprising:

a first element which produces partial straight lines in a background, each of which has a horizontal axis, wherein each of said horizontal axes are parallel with each other;

a second element which separates a color brightness data, expressed in a brightnessseparable color space where color can be expressed by being separated into brightness and chromaticity, of said background and each of said partial straight lines; and

a third element which produces a shading range having a starting point and a ending point, wherein said shading range is adjacent to one of said partial straight lines, and makes the brightness of said shading range change smoothly in said brightness-separable color space, from said starting point to said ending point by placing the brightness data of said background at said starting point and the brightness data of said straight line at said ending point.

Claims 14-17 (canceled).

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18. (previously presented): The image processing device as claimed in claim 13, further comprising:

a frame buffer; and

a fourth element which writes a predetermined one or plurality of said partial straight lines to said frame buffer; and

wherein said third element writes said range to said frame buffer.

19. (currently amended): An image processing device comprising:

a first element which produces partial straight lines in a background, each of which has a horizontal axis, wherein each of said horizontal axes are parallel with each other;

a second element which separates a color brightness data, expressed in a brightnessseparable color space where color can be expressed by being separated into brightness and chromaticity, of said background and each of said partial straight lines; and

a third element which produces shading ranges having a starting point and a ending point, wherein said shading ranges are adjacent to said partial straight lines, respectively, and make the brightness of each of said shading ranges change smoothly in said brightness-separable color space, from said starting point to said ending point by placing the brightness data of said background at said starting point and the brightness data of said straight line at said ending point.

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20. (previously presented):

The image processing device as claimed in claim

19, further comprising:

a frame buffer; and

a fourth element which writes a predetermined one or plurality of said partial straight lines to said frame buffer; and

wherein said third element writes said ranges to said frame buffer.